



PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

| | | | | | |
|-------|---|----|---|------------------------|------------|
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 4014-0170P |
|-------|---|----|---|------------------------|------------|

Complete if Known

| | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Application Number | 10/760,526-Conf. #1101 |
| Filing Date | January 21, 2004 |
| First Named Inventor | Giorgio GRANDIN |
| Art Unit | 3728 |
| Examiner Name | J. M. Mohandesi |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| | | Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
| | AA* | US-3,718,994 | | Spier | |
| | AB* | US-3,950,483 | | Spier | |
| | AC* | US-3,958,291 | | Spier | |
| | AD* | US-4,050,108 | | Londner et al. | |
| | AE* | US-6,340,164 | 01-22-2002 | Borel et al. | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ³ |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| | | Country Code ⁴ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | BA | FR-2,766,065 | | | | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. * CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with an single asterisk (*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ² |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| | | | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP

KM/RFG/eb